redeye

Friday
MARCH 1, 2013

★ FREE ★
A Chicago Tribune publication

SMILE! FABIO'S COOKING FOR YOU

pages 26-27

10 GREATEST PARTY MOVIES

Spoiler alert: '21 & Over' doesn't earn a spot on RedEye's list

pages 16-17

The Wells Street Bridge is scheduled to reopen to CTA trains March 11.
ANTONIO PEREZ/TRIBUNE

LOOP FIASCO

They're doing WHAT to the Wells Street Bridge? CTA trains about to take a major detour page 3

RIDE ALONG @ redeyechicago.com

BY JULIA BORCHERTS FOR REDEYE | REDEYE@TRIBUNE.COM » GET MORE EAT DRINK DO IDEAS AT REDEYECHICAGO.COM

EAT

ARTISAN FOOD WAREHOUSE SALE

The Scrumptious Pantry

3230 W. Fullerton Ave. 301-979-9751

The Logan Square purveyor offers discounts on artisanal goodies including TCHO chocolate, Lillie's Q barbecue sauces, Rustic Bakery organic flatbreads and cookies, single-blossom honeys, olive oils and more, plus Spanish cookware. Sip while you shop with complimentary house-made bloody marys. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.

THE PANCAKES & BOOZE ART SHOW

Reggie's Rock Club

2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120

Chow down at an all-you-can-eat pancake bar and take in visual artwork by more than 75 emerging local and national artists amid DJ beats and a live art battle at this L.A.-based underground touring exhibition. 8 p.m.-2 a.m. Friday. $5.

DRINK

WINDY CITY BREWHAHA

Bridgeport Art Center

1200 W. 35th St. 773-247-3000

The choice is yours—an afternoon or evening session—for unlimited tastings of 50 beers from more than 30 craft brewers—including Three Floyds, Haymarket, Pipeworks, Deschutes and One Trick Pony—plus a souvenir mini-stein to take home. 1-4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Saturday. $45-$50. Tickets: **windycitybrewhaha.com**.

GRAND OPENING

Castle

632 N. Dearborn St. 312-266-1944

A six-month reinvention of the former Excalibur and Vision nightclubs culminates in the debut of a new club, Castle. It houses the Palladium nightclub—which opens with Grammy Award-winning producer and house music DJ Roger Sanchez—plus an all-lifestyle-inclusive club Sanctuary and a ground-floor lounge. 10 p.m.-4 a.m. Friday. $20 (Palladium); $10 (Sanctuary). Tickets: **wantickets.com**.

DO

BELMONT BURLESQUE

Theater Wit

1229 W. Belmont Ave. 773-975-8150

Expect some glitter as the troupe—which had an eight-year open run—blasts back onstage after a two-year hiatus with performances by guests Slightly Spitfire, Bella Ciao, comedian Bill Cruz, juggler Brad French and solo and group performances by the Belmont Bombshells themselves. 10:45 p.m. Saturday. $16. Tickets: **theaterwit.org**.

REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY 'Tis the season—the Chicago Irish Film Festival kicks off this weekend: **chicagoirishfilmfestival.com**.

A Chicago Tribune publication

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Editor: Tran Ha
@tranosaurus

CONTACT US
Letter to the editor
redeye@tribune.com
Newsroom: 312-222-4970
Advertising: 312-222-2615
Classifieds: 312-222-2222
Home Delivery:
1-800-TRIBUNE
Circulation:
redservice@tribune.com

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CTA BROWN OUT

Iron workers on the Wells Street Bridge on Thursday
ANTONIO PEREZ/TRIBUNE

Warning: The nine-day project to replace bridge part will mess with your commute

Chicago Tribune

Over the next week, construction crews will descend on the Wells Street Bridge to perform the engineering equivalent of a heart transplant on the nearly century-old structure.

CTA Brown Line and Purple Line service across the bridge will be temporarily cut off starting Friday night as dozens of tradesmen work around-the-clock, 12-hour shifts to demolish the southern portion of the double-decker drawbridge.

During the nine-day closure, which begins at 10 p.m. Friday, the CTA will provide alternative bus and rail service, officials said. On weekdays, Brown Line trains will alternate between terminating at the Merchandise Mart or continuing into the Loop through the State Street subway. Shuttle buses will operate from the Chicago Avenue Brown Line station and the Loop "L" as well as a special shuttle service on the Loop elevated track.

Red Line and bus riders likely will see more crowds from the Brown and Purple lines. A similar nine-day closure is set for late April into early May.

In a tweet from its **@cta** account Monday, the CTA asked North Side riders to "try to shift workday next [week] to avoid peak" hours. The tweet directed riders to the agency's page for the Wells Street project, **transitchicago.com/wellsbridge**, where the CTA advises riders to "Leave early or late. Use alternatives."

If all goes according to plan, the 500,000-pound replacement section, which was floated up the Chicago River by barge last Saturday, will be moved into place by Tuesday.

That will leave the crews several days to install more than 1,000 bolts needed to attach the 72-foot-wide span (each must fit within one-sixteenth of an inch), rebuild the ties and track work, and replace and re-energize the rail power and track signaling in time for the morning commute on Monday, March 11.

The full rehabilitation of the similar Lake Street Bridge in 1996 took about 12 months. This portion of the Wells Street Bridge reconstruction is slated to be completed in just nine days, said Daniel Burke, deputy commissioner and chief engineer for the Chicago Department of Transportation, who called the project "the most challenging" in his 19-year career.

"This is as difficult as it gets," Burke said. "We've never done anything like this before."

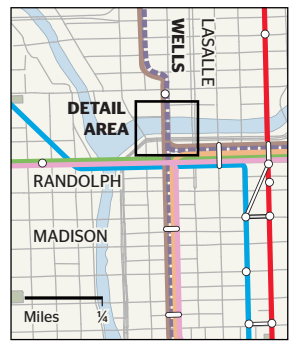
The Wells Street Bridge was constructed in its current form in 1922 and became one of the busiest bridges in Chicago. It now connects some 12,000 vehicles and 70,000 CTA commuters daily between the southern and northern reaches of the city.

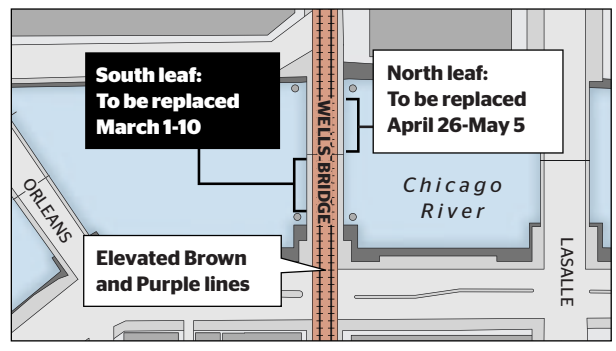
REDEYE CONTRIBUTED

HELP!
Do you have questions about the Wells Street Bridge changes? Reach out to RedEye CTA reporter Tracy Swartz on Twitter at **@tracyswartz**.

Replacing Wells Street Bridge

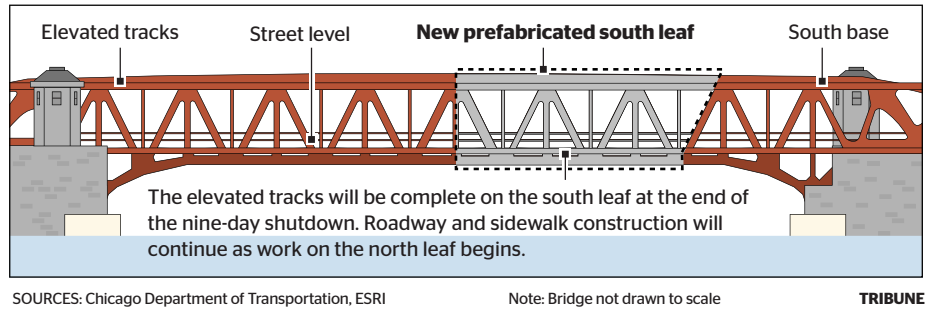
CTA rail service over the Wells Street Bridge will be rerouted for nine days starting Friday night. The bridge has been closed to car and foot traffic since November.





How the work will be done

An 89-foot-long prefabricated section of the bridge will be floated into place by a barge, then attached to the existing south base. The south base will remain and has been sandblasted down to bare metal.



SOURCES: Chicago Department of Transportation, ESRI
Note: Bridge not drawn to scale
TRIBUNE

J-Law: Best thing since sliced bread

Matt Pais
» mpais@tribune.com
» @mattpais

It would be easy to get infinitely excited about recent best actress Oscar winner **Jennifer Lawrence**, whom the Internet generally has embraced as a person they could totally be best friends with if they could only, like, meet and hit it off and stuff.

The adoration is understandable. An incredibly talented, humble movie star who's savvy and natural and endearingly human—nobody falls at the Oscars—comes around every, I don't know, almost never. George Clooney comes to mind as a similarly effortless interview subject, but his unflustered cool puts him on a post-species level. Clooney is a special breed of smooth, and his likability isn't synonymous with approachability. He seems like someone whose aura would be hard to keep up with.

Lawrence, on the other hand, is the rare non-star megastar, like she's simultaneously confident and unable/unwilling to see herself as anything more than a fortunate young woman who loves acting. Every late-night interview she gives is different, spontaneous and seemingly unconcerned about what will and won't be covered. Bodily functions are not off-limits. Awkwardness and embarrassment are common topics. And the actress is 22; it's not like old stories are that old.

GETTY IMAGES

Perhaps more reassuring than Lawrence's candidness, however, is her lack of interest in the superficial BS that pervades Hollywood coverage and interviews. If you haven't seen them already, watch her interviews after winning Sunday. She's not ashamed of falling on the stairs; she recognizes that she wore a dress that might have led to tripping, and that's what happened.

She doesn't let interviewers get away with anything. Someone asked: Is she worried about peaking too early? "Well, now I am!" Lawrence exclaimed, surely not meaning it but recognizing the absurdity of having to worry that everything going right will suddenly start going wrong.

Of course, it could. Not everyone has a lifelong career in movies. Anyone who's seen her work, though, should be able to tell that Lawrence is the real deal as an actress, and that has nothing to do with her public appeal or looks (though those obviously don't hurt). That's from her Oscar-nominated role in "Winter's Bone" to the under-seen gem "The Beaver" (really) or proving that she can give a dynamic lead performance in a teen franchise with "The Hunger Games." It's not a giant sample size, but it doesn't have to be.

Some people, because that's just the way they are, may be inclined to dislike the person everyone else supports. I'm glad, however, that most people seem to get it—as far as I'm concerned—and approve of Lawrence's freewheeling, unstudied charm and dislike, by comparison, Anne Hathaway's manufactured, self-satisfied gratitude. Those real-life behaviors translate to their on-screen work, too; in nearly all her roles, Hathaway strikes me as clearly acting, whereas Lawrence becomes the character and disappears.

Jennifer Lawrence, with her seemingly inextinguishable personality, is the new Mila Kunis—in terms of the fondness she inspires from men and women—with an added bonus of dangerous and varied skill.

It's already a justified cliche to say you're a Lawrence fan, but aside from simply liking her work and laughing at the interviews, it's fantastic to have a new movie star who suggests that the polish and restraint that often come with immense talent and A-list status not only are optional in the job, but dismissible as a lifestyle. MATT PAIS IS REDEYE'S MOVIE CRITIC.

FOLLOW THY TWEETS

Are you following these accounts on Twitter? You should be. Suggest someone you think we should feature by sending a tweet to **@JessicaGalliart**.
JESSICA GALLIART, REDEYE SOCIAL MEDIA LADY

@sadgroupon
Why you should follow: This parody account is even more relevant now that CEO Andrew Mason has been fired, right? Follow for tweet-examples of what would be some hilariously sad Groupon deals you could buy, like, simply "Cubs tickets."

SAMPLE TWEET
"$50 for $100 Worth of Guitar Lessons from Local Burnout with a Ponytail. Will not teach Rush."

@MegCerise
Why you should follow: She won! Follow **Meg Silvas**, winner of RedEye's 2013 Best Bartender contest, on Twitter to see what she's up to at her bartending gigs at The Orbit Room and Kumals Corner.

SAMPLE TWEET
"The response has been amazing so far!! You guys really know how to make a girl blush! **@redeyeeatdrink @redeyechicago #BestBartenderChi**"

HILARY HIGGINS/REDEYE

DON'T FOLLOW THY TWEETS

@Pontifex
Why you should not follow: Because the pope is gone, bro. If you're thinking of following because you just heard the news that he has retired, youre kind of missing the point that you'll be following a dead account for a while.

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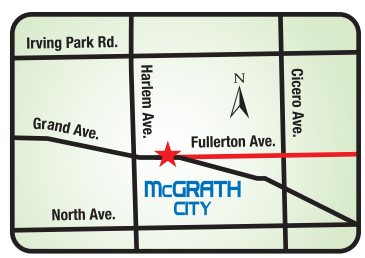

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chicago

FRIDAY 34 27 Oh hi, March

SATURDAY 32 22 Ch-ch-chilly

SUNDAY 31 20 Ahhh, sun

FYI Mayor Emanuel's chief of staff, Theresa Mintle, will step down March 15.

First lady Michelle Obama dances on stage with schoolchildren Thursday during an event to bring physical activity back to schools. REUTERS

Movin' and groovin'

First lady drops by to promote healthy schools campaign

By Adam Lukach
REDEYE

First lady Michelle Obama returned to Chicago on Thursday to announce the launch of the "Active Schools" initiative of her "Let's Move!" campaign to get children and families to adopt healthy lifestyles. The initiative is designed to bring more activities to all facets of school.

Calling it a "groundbreaking, earth-shattering, awesomely inspiring day," the first lady led more than 6,000 Chicago Public Schools students in an aerobic workout with the help of athletes including Serena Williams, Gabby Douglas and Colin Kaepernick. Nike president and chief executive officer Mark Parker announced a $50 million investment in grants to the initiative over five years.

Mayor Emanuel and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, the former CPS chief, joined Obama at McCormick Place to promote the program.

"Chicago can be the model for the rest of the country," Duncan said.

The new private-public partnership will provide resources to teachers, administrators and parents to encourage students' participation in physical activities before, during and after school. Schools also can apply for grant money to bolster their athletic efforts.

Obama has been a proponent of increased physical activity in children since she started her "Let's Move!" program in 2010. She challenged kids to make good choices both in school and in athletics, saying she made it from Chicago's South Side to where she is now because she "chose not to listen to the doubters and the haters." She also called on parents and teachers to give kids more opportunities to move and be active.

"The possibilities are truly endless," Obama said, "and the need is truly urgent."

ALUKACH@TRIBUNE.COM | @LUCHEEZY

Groupon fires CEO Mason

Chicago Tribune

Groupon on Thursday ousted its CEO, company co-founder Andrew Mason, replacing him with two current directors amid increasing heat about the deal site's disappointing financial performance.

In a letter to employees, Mason said he was fired, with a playful and self-deprecating addition: "If you're wondering why ... you haven't been paying attention."

"From controversial metrics in our [initial public offering] to two quarters of missing our own expectations and a stock price that's hovering around one quarter of our listing price, the events of the last year and a half speak for themselves," Mason continued. "As CEO, I am accountable."

As far back as November, Groupon and Mason were forced to respond publicly to a report that he would lose his job. Reports surfaced at the time that Groupon's board was considering replacing Mason with a more experienced CEO to lead the Chicago-based daily deal company's turnaround.

The board said it is searching for a permanent replacement.

EXPRESS LINES

» Illinois lawmakers Thursday opened a heated debate on whether an assault weapons ban should be approved, a discussion that featured a clash between a sheriff's association that opposes the measure, the Chicago police and the Quinn administration that wants it.

» The Chicago Marathon will reopen its registration March 5 as a lottery to fill the last 15,000 spots, marathon officials announced Thursday.

» A 16-year-old boy was shot in the leg near his South Side school Thursday and then ran inside for help, officials said.
REDEYE, TRIBUNE

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Worshipers pray for Pope Benedict XVI on Thursday in Vatican City in the moments before he stepped down. GETTY IMAGES

Pope steps down

VATICAN CITY Pope Benedict ended his difficult reign Thursday, pledging unconditional obedience to whoever succeeds him to guide the Roman Catholic Church at one of the most crisis-ridden periods in its 2,000-year history.

The papacy became vacant at 8 p.m., marking the first time in six centuries a pope has resigned instead of ruling for life.

In a symbolic gesture, the Swiss Guards who stood sentry at the papal summer residence south of Rome, where the pope flew by helicopter less than three hours earlier, quit their posts and the massive wooden doors of the hilltop residence were closed.

At the same time, the papal apartments in the Vatican were locked and will not be opened until a new pope is elected.

As he left the Vatican several hours earlier by helicopter, he sent his last Twitter message: "Thank you for your love and support. May you always experience the joy that comes from putting Christ at the centre of your lives."

Bells rang out from St Peter's Basilica and churches all over Rome as the helicopter circled Vatican City and flew over the Colosseum and other landmarks to give the pontiff one last view of the city where he is bishop.

"As you know, today is different to previous ones," he told an emotional, cheering crowd holding balloons and banners after he arrived in the small town of Castel Gandolfo, where the summer residence is located.

He told the crowd, many of whom were crying, that he would soon become "simply be a pilgrim who is starting the last phase of his pilgrimage on this earth."

He then turned and went inside the villa, never to be seen again as pope.

Gay candidate found dead

A person of interest is being held in the death of an openly gay candidate running for mayor of Clarksdale, Miss., officials said Thursday. The body of Marco McMillian, 34, was found near a Mississippi River levee.

House passes women's act

House Republicans on Thursday failed to pass their version of a new Violence Against Women Act and then split over a Senate version that won approval with unanimous Democratic support. The measure now goes to President Obama, who has said he will sign it.

Blame game over cuts

A day before sweeping budget cuts begin, the White House and Republicans blamed each other Thursday for failure to prevent a fiscal crisis which the International Monetary Fund warned could slow the U.S. and world economies.

Gay marriage endorsement

In a bold political and legal move, the Obama administration formally expressed its support for same-sex marriage in California on Thursday, setting up a high-stakes political and constitutional showdown at the U.S. Supreme Court over a fast-evolving and contentious issue.

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GREAT DEBATE

TAX REFUND SPEND OR SAVE?

Why do we put up with all the tax-season crap again? Oh, right, because it's the law. And because we might just get a big ol' refund out of it. But once you've got the cash, you have to answer one more question: How to spend it? Young Money columnist Megan Crepeau and RedEye digital producer Ernest Wilkins have some ideas ...

YOUNG MONEY
Megan Crepeau
» mcrepeau@tribune.com
» @crepeau

BE SAFE

OK, can we agree I have the harder job here? Nobody needs persuading to spend money on awesome stuff. But perhaps I can persuade you with [insert jazz hands here] MATH.

Think of it like this: If you spend your entire refund at Whole Foods, you (hopefully) get exactly your money's worth. That's fine, but you really can do better. You can put your money to work.

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Do you have an emergency savings account? You need one! What if your paycheck winds up late, or you slip and break your foot? Or think about saving for less serious stuff—holiday travel, your Pitchfork beer fund, your kid sister's Sweet Sixteen present.

At least promise me this: If you spend your tax refund on cool stuff rather than boring stuff, be smart about it. Get a credit card with baller rewards and use it for your new boots or whatever, then pay it all off with refund cash. Helloooooooo, airline miles!

Ernest Wilkins
» erwilkins@tribune.com
» @ernestwilkins

BE AWESOME

Megan, I appreciate your enthusiasm for keeping people financially on point, but as my best friend Neal always says, "MAAAAAAN, [bleep] that [bleep]."

I'm responsible with my money all year round, so I'm trying to live it up a bit with my tax refund! As long as I'm not ignoring my bills and buying something tacky like a gold chain with my face on it, why shouldn't I blow my dough? I work hard writing mediocre attempts at humor and I think it's high time I treat myself to something nice.

It's not like the pitiful amount I get back will make me the sex millionaire I've always dreamed of becoming. I have a savings account I don't touch, some random mutual fund action, and an aversion to going out to eat at places that charge $11 for a cheeseburger. I'm doing completely fine, thank you very much. I look at tax returns as a way to purchase the stuff I spend the rest of the year weeping about not being able to afford. Example: I'm buying a pair of Jordans, White Sox tickets and a vintage Florida State Starter jacket.

As the late Charlton Heston once said, "They can take my tax return when they pry it from my cold, dead fingers!" That's what he said, right? I don't know, I've been drinking.

Home/work

What's so wrong about telecommuting?

Reuters

SAN FRANCISCO Yahoo Chief Executive Marissa Mayer's decision to ban telecommuting sparked outrage around the country, but left many in Silicon Valley wondering what the fuss was all about.

Working from home is common enough in the Valley, but that is in addition to—not instead of—the 40-plus hours spent working in the office. Despite the area's image as a freewheeling space that makes much of the technology that allows people to work remotely, Bay Area workers tend to head into the office, especially at startups.

"Every idea we have is a result of more than two people sitting in a room, riffing on or trying to think up a clever solution to a certain problem," said Sahil Lavingia, founder of payments startup Gumroad. "Things like that you can't do over any Internet protocol."

That does not mean Lavingia thinks his staff should never work from home. Just the opposite.

"Everyone should have a setup at home that makes them equally as productive, or close, as if they were in the office," he says. "Many people put in hours before and after work, and on the weekends."

The new policy at Yahoo, announced in a Feb. 22 memo, calls for "all employees with work-from-home arrangements to work in Yahoo offices." The change goes into effect in June.

Many of the storied trappings of startup life—the free food, the game rooms, the flip-flops—are aimed at keeping people in the office. That goes for the engineers, often young and male, just as it does for other employees in groups such as marketing and sales. The lack of rules also is a hallmark of startup culture, and few companies will declare a firm policy on issues like telecommuting. But the message is pretty clear.

Yahoo is struggling, and people inside and outside agree it desperately needs a jolt of the all-hands-on-deck, startup spirit.

"This isn't a broad industry view on working from home, this is about what is right for Yahoo right now," a Yahoo spokeswoman said.

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HEATED GREETINGS

whizzer

» redeyesports@tribune.com

It's soccer season already? You won't catch Whizzer off guard

As a dog, I can really relate to soccer, especially the parts where you run and can't use your hands. Speaking of which, let's see these guys eat every meal using only their teeth—then I'll be REALLY impressed. Anyway, I won't hold that against them in my Fire predictions for 2013. The team kicks off its MLS season Sunday at defending champion Los Angeles.

FIRST CELEBRITY SIGHTING
Snoop Dogg

You know I love his canine nomenclature. Besides that, he's buddies with David Beckham, he's an official spokesman for "FIFA Soccer 13" and he considered investing in a Scottish soccer club. I figure he shows up for the Galaxy's home opener.

FIRST TIE
April 14 vs. Houston

The Men in Red played the Dynamo to a draw twice last season, and that trend will continue at least one more game. Of course, Houston got the upper hand in the playoffs. Grrrrr.

FIRST GOAL
Chris Rolfe

Again, not really a secret here considering he's probably related to my favorite Muppet, Rowlf the dog. Chris Rolfe also was the 2012 club MVP with eight goals and three assists. Yep, he'll pick up where he left off.

FIRST WIN
March 9 vs. New England

I'll avoid the easy pun about this rivalry revving up this season. Dammit! Sorry about that. Suffice it to say the Revolution will have a tough time in front of Section 8 in the Fire's home opener.

MVP
Sean Johnson

The goalkeeper was third in MLS in 2012 with 108 saves, and he spent the offseason training with the U.S. national team. Getting a shot past this guy is like sneaking food past me. It can be done, but not without a serious struggle.

FIRST YELLOW CARD
Austin Berry

Well, it's gotta be someone. We're not picking on the reigning MLS Rookie of the Year, either. We just figure the refs will see this aggressive defender as playing too rough, when really he's just protecting his turf. My kind of guy.

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THE STARTING LINE
» Blackhawks vs. Columbus, 7:30 p.m. CSN
» Wolves at Texas, 7:30 p.m. CN100
» Cubs pitcher Matt Garza likely to start season on disabled list

fiveonfive

MARCH ON

Pretty soon it will be baseball season in Chicago again. We know, we're scared too.

Phil Thompson
@illyphilly
Mash czar

Jimmy Greenfield
@jcgreenx
ChicagoNow community manager

Alex Quigley
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720 WGN

Bag Boy
redeyesports@tribune.com
Brown-bagged and furious

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We picked the best answers from our Twitter followers. It's that simple. What are you waiting for?

1	**Make a sports prediction for March.**	I predict someone will predict Derrick Rose's comeback on every day of the month. Sick. Of. It.	With the first pick in my fantasy draft I will select Heather Graham. Once again, she will elect not to sign.	The Bears will go undefeated.	The Hawks will lose (I said that for February and was wrong).	**@The1Tab** Derrick Rose plays in more games than the Blackhawks lose.
2	**How should the racing Italian sausage thief be punished?**	Frankly, he should be grilled by police and transferred to Cook County for being such a brat.	It's up to the authorities. I've got no beef with him.	Lowered into cheese-curd batter, then fried.	He should be stuffed in a bun.	**@daniellelynne** they should have to compete against Kobayashi in a sausage eating contest. To the death.
3	**What should be the No. 1 rule for guest singers at Wrigley?**	Lip sync. If it's good enough for the inauguration ...	They must choose to sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame."	Don't say "Let's get some runs!" unless they're losing. C'MON.	Please. Have some talent.	**@BaconSports** don't call it Wrigley Stadium (I'm looking at you Jeff Gordon)
4	**Starlin Castro already has a hamstring injury. What does that mean?**	His young career is coming along Cubly.	Javier Baez is your Opening Day shortstop.	He's bored with spring training. I don't blame him.	It means he has a hamstring injury.	**@DaSignGod** Time to go visit Anthony Bosch at the Miami-area clinic, Biogenesis!
5	**LeBron James' contest-worthy pregame dunk routine is like ...**	... your hot friend admitting a crush after you get married. ... Not that that's happened, baby ...	No Blackhawks questions means no NBA questions get answered. You know the rules.	... a perfect metaphor for his relationship with NBA fans.	Never seen it. Would rather watch a documentary on snakes.	**@judygarnet** AINT NOBODY GOT TIME FA DAT!!!

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Split Hawks & Wings? That's nuts

SACKED AGAIN

Bag Boy

» redeyesports@tribune.com

Lord, I love the NHL. Right when they lure me back, almost all the way back, they do something stupid like float realignment.

Fine, except the move would send the Detroit Red Wings to the Eastern Conference.

OK, I can put up with the huge ticket prices, all the modernity, all the newbie Blackhawk fans who never saw a game at the old Chicago Stadium, all that good stuff.

But as much as I complain about Detroit, with all its fans walking the streets whenever the Wings come to town, we want them on that wall. We need them on that wall.

Do you know what this is like? I'll tell you. This is like taking the St. Louis Cardinals out of the NL Central. Yes, we rip those fans too, but can you possibly imagine life without them?

Let's try this one. It's the equivalent of taking the Packers out of the NFC North.

Imagine life without them to haunt you on a regular basis. Actually, that might be pretty good. Bad example.

Yeah, it's that big. In fact, if Detroit heads back to the Eastern Conference, here's how many Original Six teams the Blackhawks would face on a regular basis: Zero. A couple of times a year to see Toronto, Boston, New York ... forget it.

Anyway, Blackhawks-Red Wings means something.

So while the NHL weirds me out some more, I'll look to the ever-mediocre Bulls for a release and continue to find sad news of a team being distracted by a player who isn't there.

BAG BOY IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

3 — 0

Another one bites the dust! The Blackhawks' win Thursday extended their NHL-record points streak to start a season to 20 games. They're now a mind-blowing 17-0-3. The bad news: Goaltender Corey Crawford left the game with an unspecified injury.

US PRESSWIRE

THE FINISH LINE » Bulls 93, Philadelphia 82 » Ohio St. 63, Northwestern 53

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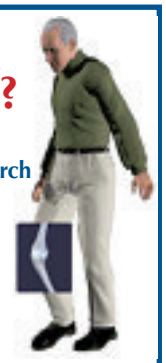

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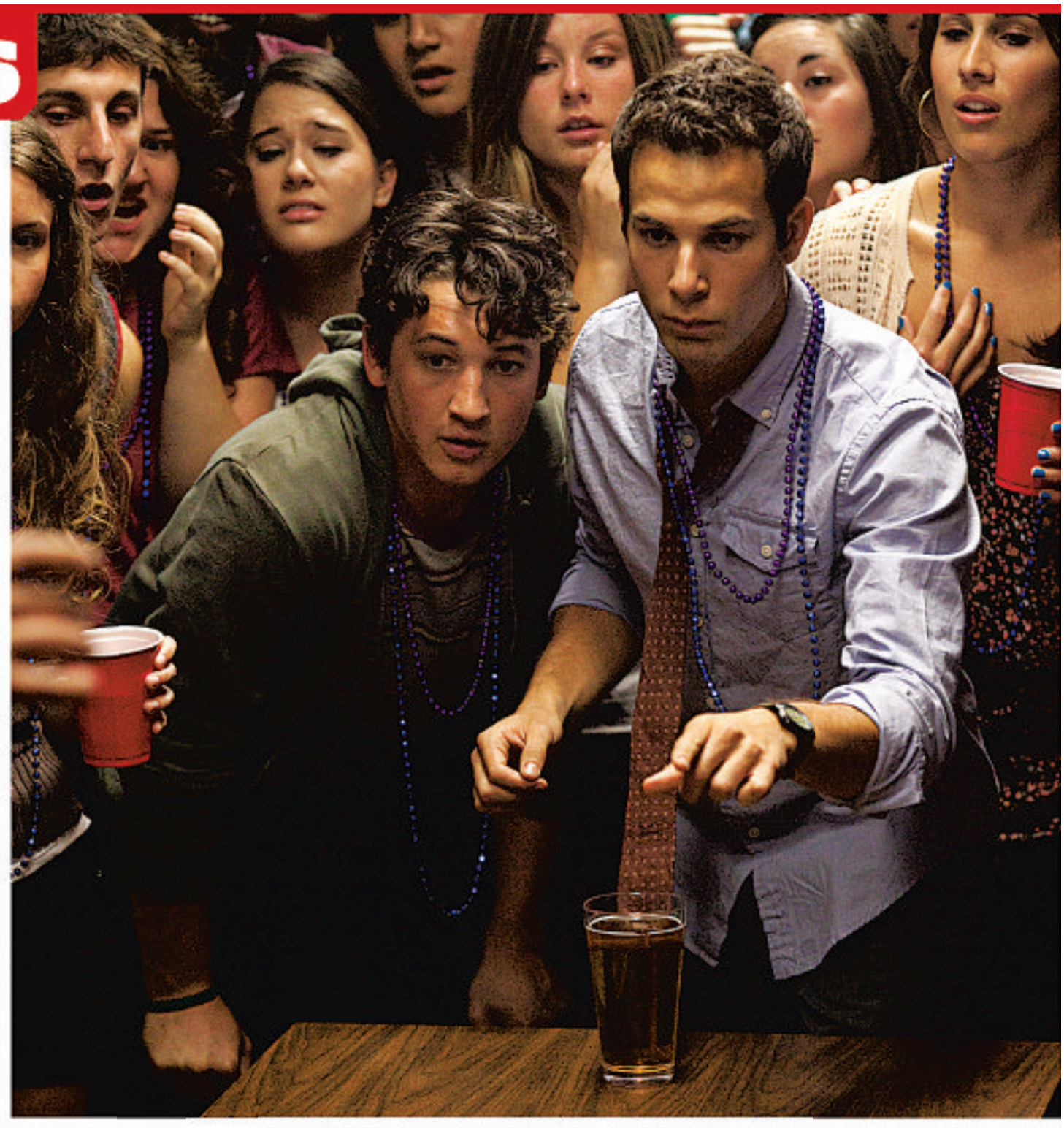

Party on!

Like so many films before it, the new flick "21 & Over" is a party movie—and proud of it. So many movies have explored this well-trod territory it's hard to create a best-of list, but that's not going to stop us. So after downing several drinks (juice boxes, of course), RedEye staff members came up with this list of our favorites. Some of these films have great party scenes. Others were built around one giant party. And some just scream, "PARTY!" Whatever the case, we would have loved to have been invited to the parties in these 10 films. REDEYE

Animal House
1978

"Toga! Toga!" "Thank you, sir! May I have another?" "Can we dance with your dates?" "Food fight!" "... You know she wants it." The list of memorable moments from the granddaddy of all party movies seems to never end. This National Lampoon film had it all—and John Belushi, too. Fat, drunk and stupid is no way to go through life? I beg to differ, Dean Wormer. —*Curt Wagner*

Superbad *2007*

Back before the world hadn't had its fill of Michael Cera-ness and Jonah Hill wasn't an Oscar nominee (!!!), the guys made a perfect pair in a raucous party movie that's unusually perceptive about teenage friendship. In "Superbad," Evan (Cera) and Seth (Hill) need each other but also need to find their way on their own, which goes terribly wrong when trying to mix the underage acquisition of alcohol with awkward advances at girls going through their own stuff and a pal who turns McLovin' into both a name and a lifestyle. A classic, and Emma Stone's stardom, were born. —*Matt Pais*

American Pie
1999

Some of the movie's most memorable moments (that don't include humping a pie) take place at parties. There's Stifler chugging a "tainted" beer, Finch hooking up with a MILF and Michelle's revelation of what she REALLY did with her flute at band camp. Comic gold. All of it. —*Mike Hines*

Ferris Bueller's Day Off *1986*

When I watched school-skipping Ferris (Matthew Broderick) jump atop a float at Chicago's Von Steuben Day parade in this John Hughes classic, I knew that someday, somehow, I would live in Chicago. Now how do I manage to skip work, go to the Art Institute and a Cubs game, hijack a float and destroy a friend's car all in one day without getting caught? Shake it up, baby. —*Curt Wagner*

Old School *2003*

"True love is hard to find. Sometimes you think you have true love, and then you catch the early flight home from San Diego and a couple of nude people jump out of your bathroom, blindfolded like a [bleeping] magic show ready to [bleep] your girlfriend." Enough said. —*Jim Walsh*

Can't Hardly Wait *1998*

Before Stifler (and his mom) were legends and McLovin' was king of high school nerds, William Lichter (Charlie Korsmo) summed up everyone's first time getting drunk at a party: "I can't feel my legs ... I HAVE NO LEGS!" Seth Green and his goggles thought they knew what every woman wanted, and a pre-TV movie Jennifer Love Hewitt was the object of every dude's desire. If you've overlooked this classic, shame on you. —*Chris Sosa*

Risky Business *1983*

If all you know about this movie is the Tom Cruise underpants scene, well, OK, that's a pretty epic scene. But bonus! The movie is set in a Chicago suburb and the soundtrack is—in my humble opinion—still awesome: Bob Seger, The

Miles Teller (left) and Skylar Astin star in "21 & Over."
RELATIVITY MEDIA PHOTOS

RECOMMENDED FOR Seth MacFarlane

FAST PAISED
Matt Pais
• mpais@tribune.com
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If the raucous, unjustly maligned "Project X" recalled hollering in the center of a bonkers, you-had-to-be-there party, "21 & Over" feels like being an irritated designated driver wondering how much longer you have to spend with jackasses you never liked much to begin with.

In many ways, the directorial debut from writers Jon Lucas and Scott Moore (who also wrote "The Hangover") is like "Nephew of The Hangover." A trio of Washington State college seniors engage in a crazy, intoxicated night with potentially disastrous consequences: The universe being a cruel jokester, wild card Jeff Chang (Justin Chon) has a huge medical school interview the morning after his 21st birthday celebration initiated by his old high school pals, the outgoing Miller (formerly promising Miles Teller of "Rabbit Hole" and "Footloose") and uptight Casey (Skylar Astin of "Pitch Perfect").

What results is juvenile in the worst way: Jeff urinates from the top of a bar into a crowd of people, slow-motion vomits from a mechanical bull and eats a tampon. Because Lucas and Moore can't go three minutes without a joke about someone's heritage, they constantly play racism for laughs (like Miller affectionately calling Jeff, "You tiny, yellow son of a bitch"). This also includes an accidental stop at a Latina sorority house, a scene descended from and inferior to the African-American fraternity encounter in "Road Trip," a Todd Phillips movie these writers didn't pen.

By the way: When one character in "21 & Over" offers the defense, "Just 'cause I look like this doesn't mean I don't have feelings," it's a white guy.

Occasionally the drunken stupidity takes on amusing, in-the-moment absurdity, whether Jeff dazedly mumbles a need for cereal or the search for Jeff's address—so Miller and Casey can get their passed-out friend home—leads to an awesome-looking, multi-level drinking game. Yet there's no defense for Miller pulling out a gun to steal an enemy's phone and no denying the oppressive laziness of "21 & Over," both in its quintessential disinterest in female characters (Sarah Wright plays the mandatory hot girl with a jerky boyfriend) or reliance on the plotline of a kid pressured into a career by an overbearing parent.

Movies like "Superbad" prove that one wild night on the big screen can be freaking hilarious without turning its characters into stereotypical assfaces. "21 & Over" occasionally nods to the guys' shifting priorities and drifting friendships but prefers homophobia and cracks about sex with Casey's underage sister to any recognition that it's possible to both work hard and play hard.

Sadly, the film includes songs from both Frightened Rabbit and the Gaslight Anthem, fantastic bands likely to despise this dimwitted batch of cliches and crassness. Speaking of music: If Miller so enjoys Soundgarden and bands of that era, how does he spend hours wearing only a sock on his junk and not say anything about the Red Hot Chili Peppers?

Justin Chon

21 & Over
R

Police, Bruce Springsteen, Prince and the Talking Heads. I'd still party to that. —*Kate Bernot*

Clueless *1995*
My love for "Clueless" runs deep—like plaid-skirt-knee-socks-heeled-Mary-Janes deep. It opens with a pool party scene (to "We're the Kids in America"), ends with a wedding, and there's a high school dance scene somewhere in the middle that includes the Mighty Mighty Bosstones playing. But the best party scene is, of course, the house party in the Valley. Tai is knocked unconscious by a flying shoe and everyone sings to "Rollin' with the Homies." The best part is when they all pile in the car to go home and Dionne cozies up to a glowing snowman lawn decoration in the back seat. —*Lisa Arnett*

Party Girl *1995*
Who was the ultimate party companion for any gay person coming out in the late 1990s? Parker Posey! Duh. After seeing this movie, I spent the next three years obsessively quoting it and imagining myself working in a NYC library with her. In the words of Posey's character Mary, "I would like a nice, powerful, mind-altering substance. Preferably one that will make my unborn children grow gills." —*Rex Chekal*

Project X *2012*
Many complained that the main characters of this off-the-wall, ultimately dangerous party movie were obnoxious. What? And you were so charming at that underage blowout you attended? "Project X" captures a legendary, irresponsible high school experience whose excess is part of the point. The movie is unnecessarily crude—you can go wild without being an insensitive, terrible person—but the way this sloppy beast of a party brings you into the freewheeling mayhem represents a rare instance of quantity being synonymous with quality. —*Matt Pais*

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FAST PAISED
Matt Pais
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Anna Faris stars in "Little Bo Peep: Wolf Exploder." That sounds like a classic tale revision that would pick the right tone and deliver some fun.

Until that movie actually exists, we're left with "Jack the Giant Slayer," the latest in an already-exhausted trend of legend reinventions ("Snow White and the Huntsman," "Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters," even "Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter") that, usually, are either dully serious or pathetically unfunny. Or both.

Anyway, you'd think a monk in possession of world-changing magic beans would be more responsible. In the shockingly uninspired, 115-minute 3-D slog "Slayer," that monk uses the beans to buy a horse from a stranger—with only a quick, non-informative warning about not getting them wet.

The stranger is 18-year-old Jack (Nicholas Hoult, who fared better in "Warm Bodies"), who'd love to protect Princess Isabelle (Eleanor Tomlinson) as one of the king's guardians but doesn't have the noble blood required. But then those beans touch water and the resulting giant beanstalk sends Isabelle skyward into a land of hideous, generic giants. This prompts a climb-and-rescue mission that includes a vanilla knight (Ewan McGregor), the middle-aged, obviously untrustworthy sleaze (Stanley Tucci) whom the king (Ian McShane) senselessly wants his daughter to marry and Jack, who shares Isabelle's thirst for adventure and, uh, aversion to death.

Otherwise their relationship ain't squat, and they have even less chemistry.

Directed by Bryan Singer ("X-Men") from a script insufficiently rewritten by Singer's "Valkyrie" writer Christopher McQuarrie, "Slayer" barely has the seed of an idea. The film rips off "Lord of the Rings" with a crown whose possession rules over the giants. Also stolen: numerous lousy visual elements from "Clash of the Titans" and action sequences from "Jurassic Park" and "The Fugitive."

Jack the Giant Slayer
PG-13

Just because a movie is big doesn't mean it has real size. Rather than bring a legend to life, the bland, PG-13 "Jack the Giant Slayer" downscales an unforgettable journey into the shrug-worthy muck of every other big adventure, comprising one anti-climactic moment after another. The beans may as well be sleeping pills.

FASTER PAISED » "The Last Exorcism Part 2" did not screen for critics. Check **redeyechicago.com** Friday for Matt Pais' review.

EVEN FASTER PAISED

Blunt force cinema

The Sweeney
R

Who's in it: Ray Winstone, Damian Lewis, Steven Mackintosh, Hayley Atwell, Ben "Plan B" Drew

After countless identical Jason Statham movies, the rugged, ground-level toughness of British cop flick "The Sweeney" comes as a breath of fresh, brutal air.

Clumsy storytelling causes the film to peter out, but several quotable moments and heart-pounding action scenes in "The Sweeney" make "A Good Day to Die Hard" look even worse by comparison.

Unhealthy society

A Place at the Table
PG

I can't say I've thought much about why food costs what it costs. It's no secret that unhealthy food is cheap, contributing to obesity problems in low-income areas. The troubling doc "A Place at the Table" offers a useful look into the subsidies—stay with me, this matters—that drive up fruit and vegetable prices while lowering the cost of processed junk that tastes better and treats your body far worse than it treats your wallet.

Fear and loving in Connecticut

FAST PAISED
Matt Pais
» mpais@tribune.com
» @mattpais

Stoker
R

Many thrillers contain eerie, mysterious figures and a villain waiting for just the right time to strike. Not many thrillers grant attention to the unnerving crackle of an eggshell or, gulp, a young girl's orgasmic fantasy about doing a piano duet with her uncle.

The screenwriting debut for "Prison Break" star Wentworth Miller, "Stoker" isn't a Dracula story, contrary to what its name implies. Rather, the film consistently finds new pockets for discomfort as the death of Richard Stoker (Dermot Mulroney) precedes the arrival of his brother Charlie (Matthew Goode), who Richard's daughter India (Mia Wasikowska) and wife (Nicole Kidman) didn't know existed.

Attractive and charming, Charlie moves in with his niece and sister-in-law, and a tangible chill hovers even during placid conversations. People start disappearing. Relationships temporarily stabilize only to fracture in grand fashion.

This is the English-language debut for South Korean director and vengeance veteran Park Chan-wook (the unpleasant cult favorite "Oldboy," whose Spike Lee-helmed remake is expected this year). He paints style into nearly every shot. Indicating in voiceover, "To become adult is to become free," India sits in a pose identical to a concrete statue; later, she lies in the center of a ring of shoes she's grown out of. We learn she hates to be touched, and a school bully (Lucas Till of "X-Men: First Class") discovers what happens when you mess with her.

Frequently the deliberate rigidity in "Stoker" distances the story from the style. Miller sometimes favors implications over clarity.

Nicole Kidman (left) and Mia Wasikowska
FOX SEARCHLIGHT

The effectively cold performances also can't hide the loose ends of a disturbing saga of inherited menace and the somewhat questionable presence of logic within madness.

Usually, though, "Stoker" and its upsetting notion of doing something bad to avoid doing something worse gets under your skin. It is art. It is horror. It is family.

MOTION PICTURE DIRECTORY

Handicapped Access ✚ Digital Sound ✔ Dolby Stereo ★ No Passes Hearing - Impaired

G - General audience PG - Parental guidance suggested PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13
R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)
600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily ♿
■AMC Independent **The Sweeney** (R) ★ Đ 11:05, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10
■**Django Unchained** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 11:25, 3:00, 9:10
■**Zero Dark Thirty** (R) Đ 11:00, 2:30, 6:00, 9:30
■**Argo** (R) Đ 11:35, 1:15, 4:05, 7:00, 9:50
■**A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Đ 10:50, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Đ 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:10, 9:20
■**Identity Thief** (R) Đ 11:15, 2:05, 4:50, 7:40, 10:15
■**Side Effects** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 6:40, 10:00
■AMC Independent **Amour** (PG-13) Đ 11:45, 2:50, 6:10
■**Safe Haven** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 10:55, 1:40, 4:25, 7:20, 10:05

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)
2828 North Clark St., Chicago
(773) 509-4949
■**A Place at the Table** (PG) Đ 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 9:55
■**Monty Python and the Holy Grail** (PG) Đ 12:00
■**Stoker** (R) Đ 1:10, 2:00, 3:30, 4:30, 6:00, 7:30, 8:25, 9:55, 10:45
■**The Gatekeepers** (PG-13) Đ 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40
■**Lincoln** (PG-13) Đ 5:25, 8:30
■**The Oscar Nominated Short Films 2013: Animated** (NR) Đ 3:25
■**The Oscar Nominated Short Films 2013: Live Action** (NR) Đ 1:00
■**Amour** (PG-13) Đ 1:35, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00
■**Quartet** (PG-13) Đ 1:50, 4:05, 7:05, 10:00

CITY NORTH 14 (REGAL)
2600 N. Western Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1642
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) ★ 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10, 11:00
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) ★ 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:20
■**Jack the Giant Slayer** (PG-13) ★ 11:00, 1:40, 3:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:50
■**The Last Exorcism Part II** (PG-13) 11:10, 1:50, 3:00, 4:30, 5:40, 7:10, 8:20, 9:40, 10:50
■**21 and Over** (R) 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:40
■**Snitch** (PG-13) 11:15, 2:15, 5:05, 8:00, 10:45
■**Dark Skies** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:35, 2:05, 4:35, 7:15, 10:05
■**Escape From Planet Earth 3D** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 4:05
■**Escape From Planet Earth** (PG) (Closed caption) 11:25, 1:45, 6:50
■**Safe Haven** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25
■**A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) 12:00, 2:55, 5:25, 8:05, 10:35
■**Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) 11:55
■**Side Effects** (R) 10:15
■**Identity Thief** (R) 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:40, 10:30
■**Warm Bodies** (PG-13) 12:45, 6:55
■**Django Unchained** (R) (Closed caption) 9:20
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) (Closed caption) 11:05, 1:55, 4:55, 7:55, 10:55

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)
4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
(773) 784-0893
■**Jack the Giant Slayer** (PG-13) ★ 4:45, 7:10, 9:40
■**Life of Pi** (PG) 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
■**Identity Thief** (R) 5:20, 7:40, 10:10
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)
S. Cicero at 76th., Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily
■**Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters** (R) Đ 11:30, 1:50, 4:15, 6:55, 9:10
■**Jack the Giant Slayer** (PG-13) ★ Đ 1:40, 7:05
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) ★ 11:00, 4:25, 9:45
■AMC Independent **Bless Me, Ultima** (PG-13) ★ Đ 7:20, 10:00
■**Django Unchained** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 9:00
■**Argo** (R) Đ 11:10, 2:00, 4:40
■**A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Đ 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
■**Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:05, 1:25, 3:45, 6:30, 9:05
■**Escape From Planet Earth 3D** (PG) (Closed caption) 2:05, 4:20
■**Escape From Planet Earth** (PG) Đ (Closed caption) 11:40, 6:45
■**Identity Thief** (R) Đ 1:00, 3:50, 6:50, 9:25
■**21 and Over** (R) ★ Đ 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:55
■**Mama** (PG-13) Đ 12:00, 2:25, 4:55, 7:20, 9:40
■AMC Independent **Phantom** (R) ★ Đ 11:35, 1:55, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35
■**Snitch** (PG-13) ★ Đ (Closed caption) 11:00, 12:05, 1:35, 2:45, 4:10, 5:25, 7:15, 8:10, 10:00
■**Dark Skies** (PG-13) ★ Đ (Closed caption) 11:10, 1:30, 3:55, 6:45, 9:20
■**The Last Exorcism Part II** (PG-13) ★ Đ 11:50, 2:10, 4:45, 7:25, 9:50

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER
164 State Street
(312) 846-2800
■**Stella Days** (NR) 6:00

LOGAN THEATRE
2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628
■**Argo** (R) 2:05, 4:25, 6:40, 9:05
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30
■**Django Unchained** (R) 3:00, 6:00, 9:00
■**Zero Dark Thirty** (R) 2:50, 6:00, 9:15
■**Dirty Dancing** (PG-13) 11:45
■**Invasion of the Body Snatchers** (PG) 11:15

MUSIC BOX
3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604
■**Like Someone in Love** (NR) 2:00, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
■**Happy People: A Year in the Taiga** (NR) 5:20, 9:45
■**Lore** (NR) 3:00, 7:30
■**The Terminator** (R) 11:59
■**John Dies at the End** (R) 11:59

THE PATIO THEATER
6008 W. Irving Park Road
(773) 685-4291
■**The Other Side of Sleep** (NR) 10:00
■**Life of Pi** (PG) 7:30

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)
322 E. Illinois Street, Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily
■**Jack the Giant Slayer** (PG-13) ★ Đ 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 5:30, 7:40, 8:40, 11:10
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) ★ 10:30, 12:30, 3:30, 4:30, 6:30, 9:30, 10:40
■**Django Unchained** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 10:00, 7:15, 9:45
■**Zero Dark Thirty** (R) Đ 10:15, 7:20, 9:55
■**A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Đ 10:00, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 10:55
■**Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:35, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Đ 11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 8:05, 11:05
■**Escape From Planet Earth 3D** (PG) (Closed caption) 4:05, 9:05
■**Escape From Planet Earth** (PG) Đ (Closed caption) 10:00, 10:50, 1:20, 6:35
■**Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Đ 1:05, 4:10
■**Identity Thief** (R) Đ 11:25, 2:20, 5:20, 8:20, 11:15
■**21 and Over** (R) ★ Đ 11:15, 12:15, 1:50, 2:50, 4:20, 5:20, 7:25, 8:10, 9:50, 10:50, 11:30
■**Side Effects** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 11:20, 2:05, 5:10, 8:15, 11:25
■AMC Independent **Kai po che!** (NR) ★ Đ 11:55, 3:25, 6:50, 10:05
■**Safe Haven** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 1:35, 4:35, 7:35, 10:30
■**Lincoln** (PG-13) Đ 12:30, 3:50
■AMC Independent **Phantom** (R) ★ Đ 11:35, 2:15, 5:05, 7:50, 10:25
■**Snitch** (PG-13) ★ Đ (Closed caption) 10:10, 11:45, 2:40, 5:35, 8:25, 10:15, 11:20
■**Dark Skies** (PG-13) ★ Đ (Closed caption) 10:25, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 11:20
■**The Last Exorcism Part II** (PG-13) ★ Đ 10:05, 11:10, 12:40, 2:10, 3:10, 4:50, 5:55, 7:30, 8:30, 10:10, 11:15
■**Life of Pi 3D** (PG) 1:00, 4:15

SHOWPLACE VILLAGE CROSSING (AMC)
7000 Carpenter Rd., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #2309
■**Jack the Giant Slayer** (PG-13) ★ Đ 10:45, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:15
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) ★ 11:30, 2:30, 5:15, 8:15
■AMC Independent **Bless Me, Ultima** (PG-13) ★ Đ 4:10
■**Django Unchained** (R) Đ 10:30
■**Zero Dark Thirty** (R) Đ 6:45, 10:20
■**Argo** (R) Đ 1:00, 4:15, 7:20, 10:25
■**A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Đ 10:05, 12:40, 3:15, 5:55, 8:30, 11:00
■**Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Đ 10:25, 12:50, 3:20, 5:50
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Đ 10:10, 1:10, 4:00, 6:50, 9:50
■**Jack the Giant Slayer: An IMAX 3D Experience** (PG-13) ★ 10:00, 12:45, 3:45, 6:30, 9:30
■**Escape From Planet Earth 3D** (PG) 1:20, 4:00
■**Escape From Planet Earth** (PG) Đ 10:50, 2:20, 6:30
■**Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Đ 10:20, 1:15
■**Identity Thief** (R) Đ 11:20, 2:15, 5:05, 7:50, 10:40
■**21 and Over** (R) ★ Đ 10:30, 12:55, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15, 11:10
■**Side Effects** (R) Đ 10:15, 3:20, 6:05, 8:40
■**Safe Haven** (PG-13) Đ 10:50, 1:50, 4:45, 7:35, 11:15
■**Lincoln** (PG-13) Đ 1:30
■AMC Independent **Phantom** (R) ★ Đ 12:00, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
■**Snitch** (PG-13) ★ Đ 10:00, 10:50, 12:00, 2:35, 4:50, 7:30, 8:15, 10:20, 11:15
■**Dark Skies** (PG-13) ★ Đ 12:40, 3:10, 5:45, 8:20, 10:50
■**The Last Exorcism Part II** (PG-13) ★ Đ 11:45, 12:30, 4:40, 7:00, 8:50, 9:40, 11:15
■**A Moment in Time** (NR) ★ Đ 10:00, 2:50, 5:30, 8:05, 10:35

WEBSTER PLACE 11 (REGAL)
1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641
■**21 and Over** (R) 12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:40
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
■**The Last Exorcism Part II** (PG-13) 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
■**Dark Skies** (PG-13) 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20
■**Snitch** (PG-13) 11:35, 2:15, 5:05, 7:45, 10:50
■**A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) 12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
■**Identity Thief** (R) 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:35, 10:25
■**Side Effects** (R) 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:55, 10:45
■**Zero Dark Thirty** (R) 12:00, 3:30, 7:10, 10:35
■**Life of Pi 3D** (PG) 12:50, 6:45
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
■**Argo** (R) 3:50, 9:45

SHOWPLACE GALEWOOD 14 (AMC)
E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1646
■**Jack the Giant Slayer** (PG-13) ★ Đ 10:50, 1:45, 4:40, 7:35, 10:30
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) ★ 12:45, 3:40, 6:35, 9:30
■**Django Unchained** (R) Đ 9:35
■**Argo** (R) ★ Đ 10:10, 1:05, 4:00
■**A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Đ 10:15, 12:50, 3:20, 5:55, 8:30, 11:00
■**Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Đ 10:00, 12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:45, 10:15
■**Escape From Planet Earth 3D** (PG) (Closed caption) 11:45, 4:45
■**Escape From Planet Earth** (PG) Đ (Closed caption) 2:15, 7:15
■**Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Đ 10:25, 1:25, 4:25, 7:25
■**Identity Thief** (R) Đ 11:25, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:40
■**21 and Over** (R) ★ Đ (Closed caption) 10:00, 12:25
■**21 and Over** (R) ★ Đ 2:50, 5:30, 8:05, 10:35
■**Mama** (PG-13) Đ 6:45, 10:25
■AMC Independent **Phantom** (R) Đ 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00
■**Snitch** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 10:35, 11:35, 1:20, 2:25, 4:10, 5:10, 8:00, 9:50, 10:50
■**Dark Skies** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:30, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45
■**The Last Exorcism Part II** (PG-13) ★ Đ 10:15, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 7:15, 8:15, 9:15, 10:45

SHOWPLACE CICERO 14 (AMC)
4779 W. Cermak., Cicero
(800) 326-3264 #1644
■**Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters** (R) Đ 4:00
■**Jack the Giant Slayer** (PG-13) Đ 11:10, 2:00, 5:00, 7:40, 10:30
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) 10:20, 1:15, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45
■AMC Independent **Bless Me, Ultima** (PG-13) Đ 1:35
■**Django Unchained** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 9:30
■**Argo** (R) Đ 3:45
■**A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Đ 11:00, 1:45, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00
■**Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 6:30, 9:10
■**Escape From Planet Earth 3D** (PG) (Closed caption) 11:20, 4:20
■**Escape From Planet Earth** (PG) Đ (Closed caption) 10:10, 1:00, 1:50, 6:50
■**Identity Thief** (R) Đ 11:15, 2:10, 5:15, 8:15, 10:50
■**21 and Over** (R) Đ 10:05, 12:40, 3:00, 5:40, 7:30, 8:40, 11:00
■**Mama** (PG-13) Đ 10:30, 4:50
■AMC Independent **Phantom** (R) Đ 11:20, 2:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:05
■**Snitch** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 10:20, 10:50, 1:10, 2:15, 5:00, 6:50, 8:00, 9:50, 10:45
■**Dark Skies** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:30, 2:20, 4:50, 7:35, 10:10
■**The Last Exorcism Part II** (PG-13) Đ 10:00, 11:00, 12:30, 1:40, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:15, 9:30, 10:15, 10:50

SHOWPLACE ICON AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION
Clark & Roosevelt, South Loop, Chicago
(312) 564-2104
■**A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) ✓ 11:40, 2:30, 5:10, 8:00, 10:50
■**Escape From Planet Earth 3D** (PG) 9:15
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) 10:40, 11:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:20, 4:50, 7:10, 7:40, 10:00, 10:30
■**Jack the Giant Slayer** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 10:00, 12:50, 3:40, 6:30, 9:30
■**Django Unchained** (R) 11:10, 2:40, 6:20, 9:55
■**Snitch** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 10:45, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20
■**Snitch** (PG-13) ★ 10:40
■**Zero Dark Thirty** (R) (Closed caption) 11:50, 3:45, 7:15, 10:10
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) 10:50, 1:45, 4:45, 7:50
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) (Closed caption) 10:45
■**Escape From Planet Earth** (PG) 10:30, 1:10, 3:50, 6:40
■**21 and Over** (R) ★ 10:20, 12:30, 1:20, 3:20, 4:10, 6:00, 7:00, 8:30, 9:50, 11:00
■**Identity Thief** (R) 11:00, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20
■**Side Effects** (R) 10:15, 1:00, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40
■**The Last Exorcism Part II** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:30, 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15
■**The Last Exorcism Part II** (PG-13) ★ 10:10, 12:40, 3:30, 6:10, 8:40, 11:10
■**Dark Skies** (PG-13) ★ 11:20, 2:20, 5:20, 8:10, 10:55
VIP Premium 21+
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) ***VIP Premium 21+*** 10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00
■**21 and Over** (R) ★ ***VIP Premium 21+*** 12:30, 3:20, 6:00, 8:30, 11:00

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)
1022 Lake Street, Oak Park
(630) 444-FILM #560
■**Jack the Giant Slayer** (PG-13) ★ 12:00, 5:00
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) ★ 2:30, 7:30, 10:00
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) 1:00, 4:00, 6:45, 9:25
■**Identity Thief** (R) 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
■**21 and Over** (R) ★ 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50
■**Side Effects** (R) 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
■**Amour** (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
■**Quartet** (PG-13) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

EVANSTON

CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)
1715 Maple Ave., Evanston
(847) 492-0123 ♿
■**Argo** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
■**Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 11:25, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20
■**Les Misérables** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:40, 3:05, 6:30, 9:55
■**Zero Dark Thirty** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 12:15, 3:40, 7:05, 9:45
■**Django Unchained** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 9:25
■**Amour** (PG-13) Đ 2:20, 7:35
■**Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:50, 5:10, 10:30
■**Quartet** (PG-13) Đ 11:55, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 10:00
■**Identity Thief** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 11:35, 2:20, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35
■**Side Effects** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 11:30, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15
■**Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 1:40
■**Safe Haven** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:30, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30
■**A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:40
■**Escape From Planet Earth** (PG) Đ (Closed caption) 2:30, 7:10
■**Escape From Planet Earth 3D** (PG) 12:10, 4:50
■**Snitch** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:25, 2:05, 4:45, 7:25, 10:05
■**Dark Skies** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25
■**Jack the Giant Slayer** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:45, 5:25
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
■**Jack the Giant Slayer 3D** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 2:35, 8:15
■**21 and Over** (R) Đ (Closed caption) 12:45, 3:10, 5:35, 8:00, 10:25
■**The Last Exorcism Part II** (PG-13) Đ (Closed caption) 11:30, 1:45, 4:00, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45
■**The Gatekeepers** (PG-13) Đ 11:45, 2:20, 4:45, 7:15, 10:30

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V6, PW, PL, TILT, CRUISE, CD, LOADED, #130256

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60K Miles!
RED, LTHR, MOONROOF, LOADED! #78665A
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2008 FORD FUSION SE

AUTO, PW, PL, TILT, CRUISE #X2030
$10,989* OR $209^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

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LTHR, MOONROOF, SPORT PKG, LOW MILES, #X2014
$11,989* OR $259^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

2009 MERCURY MILAN PREMIUM

Leather, Moonroof!
LTHR, MOONROOF, LOADED! #2052
$12,989* OR $249^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

2008 FORD MUSTANG

PREMIUM PKG, ALLOYS, LOW MILES, #78353A
$12,989* OR $249^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

2011 MAZDA 3 SEDAN

SILVER, ALLOYS, AUTO, PL, PW, TILT, CRUISE! #X2000
$13,989* OR $269^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

2009 SUBARU OUTBACK WGN

BLACK, HTD SEATS, AUTO, NICE CAR, #X3186
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$12,989* OR $289^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

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$12,989* OR $249^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

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LTHR, 20" WHLS, ALL THE TOYS! #6G338
$21,989* OR $479^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

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BLACK, CPT CHAIRS, DUAL AC, ALLOYS, LOADED! #2320
$9,989* OR $219^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

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AUTO, AC, PL, PW, TILT, CRUISE, NICE! #7111A
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ALLOYS, PL, PW, TILT, CRUISE LOADED!, #X2045
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2007 SUZUKI XL-7 GRAND VITARA

LEATHER, MOONROOF, 3RD ROW, #X2457
$13,989* OR $269^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

2005 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR LUXURY 4X4

Navi!
BLACK, LTHR, MOONROOF, NAVI, LOADED, #X1447B
$14,989* OR $329^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

2006 NISSAN PATHFINDER SE 4X4

PWR MNROOF, ALLOYS, RUNNING BOARDS, LOW MILES, LOADED! #X2003
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LTHR, MOONROOF, SPORT PKG, FULLY LOADED! #70393A
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2009 MINI COOPER CLUBMAN EDITION

23K MILES, LTHR, MOONROOF, ALL THE TOYS! #X2002
$18,989* OR $359^ PER MO W/$500 DOWN

2013 NISSAN ALTIMA SL

10K Miles Only!
BLACK, ALL NEW BODY STYLE, 2400 MILES ONLY, PRE-DRIVEN #X2033
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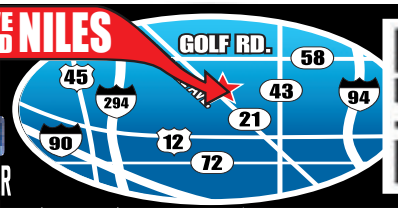

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Travis Fimmel in 'Vikings'

It takes a pillage

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Vikings
9 p.m. Sunday, History

Some people just won't take "no" for an answer. In the case of Ragnar Lothbrok in the new historical drama "Vikings," that's a good thing.

In History Channel's nine-part scripted series—its first—adventurous young farmer Ragnar (Travis Fimmel) grows bored of the Vikings' plunder-and-pillage raids on the Baltics east of the Nordic homeland. He wants to travel west across the sea to plunder and pillage England, a destination that his lord, Earl Haraldson (Gabriel Byrne), and many others believe is just a myth. It is, after all, just 793 A.D. Lots of new worlds to discover!

"You are a farmer," Earl warns him. "You should be content with your lot."

Ragnar isn't, instead wrangling his wife, the lovely and fierce shield maiden Lagertha (Katheryn Winnick), his brother Rollo (Clive Standen) and a crew to man a new kind of boat built by his eccentric pal, Floki (Gustaf Skarsgard). They sail west, eventually landing on the shores of Northumbria (England) where they raid a monastery and grab a bunch of gold and silver souvenirs. Ragnar, only slightly less ax-happy than his mates, saves a young monk named Athelstan (George Blagden)—only to make him a slave for the Lothbrok family.

When Ragnar and his merry band return home with their loot, the Earl is happy to take it from them, but seethes at the idea that he was proven wrong. So the cruel, vindictive leader sets out to destroy Ragnar.

This battle of wills may be the main conflict of the series—Byrne could wither a stone with his line readings—but "Vikings" really sails when Ragnar, played appealingly by Aussie Fimmel (the Chicago-filmed and set "The Beast") as a restless dreamer bound for greatness, looks west to fulfill his lust for discovery.

I just wish creator/writer Michael Hirst ("Elizabeth," "The Tudors") would spend more time fleshing out Ragnar's far-flung adventures. "Vikings" speeds through his maiden voyage west so quickly you'd think Scandinavia was just across the Channel from England.

But Hirst can tell a story, and with "Vikings" he has the luxury of taking creative license, because the real Vikings never kept written records. Most of their history was told by their victims, which is why most viewers likely think "rampaging barbarians" when they hear "Vikings." (Or they think football.) The intriguing details of Viking life and culture and the lush Irish scenery where the series filmed help overcome the inconsistent accents and some clumsy, not-of-the-8th-century dialogue.

After opening with a bloody, fantastic battle, Sunday's pilot lumbers to an exciting end. But the good news is "Vikings" improves with each episode, slowly building its fascinating characters and discovering its ultimately absorbing tale.

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New 2013 Chevy **MALIBU LS**

Stock #IP13130

Lease for: $167 per month

*24 mo lease. *24 mo lease. $1,810 due at signing plus 1st payment & $0 security deposit with approved credit through participating financial institution on select models. Plus tax, title, lic & doc fee. Must take delivery by 2/28/13. See dealer for details.

New 2013 Chevy **EQUINOX FWD LS**

Stock #D1008

Lease for: $164 per month

*24 mo lease. $3,100 due at signing plus 1st payment & $0 security deposit with approved credit through participating financial institution on select models. Plus tax, title, lic & doc fee. Must take delivery by 2/28/13. See dealer for details.

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NEW 2013 SONIC LS
Auto! Stk. #IP13396 NO MONEY DOWN!^
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NEW 2013 TRAVERSE FWD LS
Stk. #IP13431 NO MONEY DOWN!^
$28,844* or $424/mo^

2013 CAMARO 2LS
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2009 Chevrolet Impala Sedan 3.5L LT
Stk. #IP12894A
$12,795*

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Stk. #IP12690A
$24,989*

2009 Saturn Sky
Stk. #IP13238A
$18,995*

2011 Honda Cr-Z Coupe EX
Stk. #CP2218
$15,795*

2010 Toyota Scion xD
Stk. #IP13126B
$10,995*

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Stk. #CP2248
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music

TOP SHOWS

REDEYE'S PICKS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S CONCERTS

Minus the Bear
9 p.m. Sun. at Metro. $23-$26.
Their new stuff doesn't live up to the old stuff. But that early material—yes.

Jake Snider
GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTOS

The Delta Saints
8 p.m. Sat. at Reggie's Music Joint. $7.
One of my favorite new bands.

Autre Ne Veut
10 p.m. Sat. at Schubas. $12.
Sexy, soulful, excellent.

Night Beds
10 p.m. Sat. at Empty Bottle. $10.
A solid late-night driving record.

Ra Ra Riot
9 p.m. Fri. at Metro. $21.
Some don't like the new "Beta Love." I think it's good to hear them having fun.

Brian Fallon and Alex Levine

The Gaslight Anthem
8 p.m. Fri. at Riviera Theatre. Sold out.
The crowd singing along with their blue-collar, blood-soaked tunes is a thing of beauty.

Medical Assistants!

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March 6, 2013 • 9am – 2pm

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2006 FORD FREESTYLE
BLUE- V6- FULL POWER
P17087A, $3,477

2005 PONTIAC MONTANA
WHITE-FULL PWR-DVD
12865A, $4,977

1999 LEXUS RX300
BLK- V6- LTHR ROOF- NICE
12809B, $6,977

2003 NISSAN SENTRA GXE
4CYL-CD-PW-GOLD
XP17075, $6,977

2005 DODGE DURANGO
V8- 4x4- LTHR- BURGUNDY
48763A, $9,977

2004 HONDA ACCORD
LTHR-ROOF-LOADED-BLK
P16883A, $9,977

2006 ACURA TL
SILVER-NAV-ROOF-V6
P16873A, $10,577

2007 NISSAN ARMADA
GREY-V8-FULL PWR
48933A, $12,577

2010 KIA FORTE
WHITE-PW-ALLOYS-NICE
12723A, $12,977

2012 NISSAN VERSA
4CYL-AUTO-POWER-GREY
XP17099, $12,977

2011 CHEVY AVEO
RED-4CYL-PW-CD
48158B, $13,477

2010 DODGE AVENGER
SILVER-NICE TRADE-CLEAN
48153A, $13,677

2012 FIAT 500 POP
RED-2DR -AUTO-CUTE
XP17051, $13,977

2010 DODGE AVENGER SE
4CYL-BLACK SUPER NICE
XP17096, $14,577

2012 MAZDA 6
I-SPORT-LOADED-BLACK-AUTO
XP17018, $14,577

2005 FORD EXPLORER
LTD- BLK- V8- LTHR- ROOF
48871B, $14,977

2010 SUBARU LEGACY
BLACK-ALLOYS-MUST SEE
P16804, $16,977

2012 VW JETTA
SILVER-UNDER 8K MILES-AUTO
P16803, $16,977

2012 CHEVY MALIBU 2LT
LTHR-ROOF-WHITE-CHROMES
XP17086, $17,577

2008 TOYOTA 4RUNNER
PEWTER-V6-4X4-ROOF
48414B, $18,977

2007 HONDA CRV
4X4-SILVER-LOADED-NICE
P16783, $18,977

2011 HYUNDAI SANTE FE GLS
AWD-BRONZE-4CYL-PWR
XP17012, $18,977

2011 FORD TAURUS SEL
BLACK-LOW MILES-SUPER
P17043, $19,977

2012 FORD ESCAPE
SILVER-4CYL-AUTO-11K MILES
48994A, $19,977

2010 FORD FLEX
GREEN-SYNC-LOADED-LOW MILES
48437A, $20,277

2010 MERCURY MARINER
TAN- LTHR- ROOF- SUPER
48761A, $20,977

2011 CHEVY EQUINOX
3LT-BLK-REAR CAMERA-14K MILES
47842A, $22,977

2011 CHEVY SILERADO LT
V8-4X4-BLUE-SPECIAL WHLS
47513A, $25,977

2011 MAZDA CX7
LTHR-ROOF-BLK-14K MILES-AWD
48770A, $26,477

2009 FORD F250 X-CAB
XLT-4X4-14K MILES WHITE
48497A, $26,977

2012 CADILLAC CTS LUXURY
LTHR-ROOF-SILVER-MUST SEE
XP17089, $27,977

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eat&drink

Siena Tavern
LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE PHOTOS

Italian stallion

Gnocchi with truffle cream

Hamachi crudo

Chef Fabio Viviani at Siena Tavern

'Top Chef' fan favorite Fabio Viviani channels some of Italy's charm

By Lisa Arnett
REDEYE

REVIEW
Siena Tavern
51 W. Kinzie St.
312-595-1322
Off to a good start

Fabio Viviani was a fan favorite on the fifth season of "Top Chef," but since then, I've seen his charming grin and suave Italian accent all over the place.

There he was on a commercial for Domino's, touting a line of artisan pizzas. Or promoting oatmeal as a healthy breakfast (in red satin pajamas, of course) in an online video for Quaker Oats. And in between, he's teaching his fans Italian one word at a time on Twitter.

His on-screen antics—from the way he pronounced "burger" as "boorger" and declared, "This is 'Top Chef,' it's not 'Top Scallops,' "—were such reality TV gold that Bravo brought him back for two more shows, "Top Chef All-Stars" and "Life After Top Chef."

Now, thanks to a partnership with Luke Stoioff and David Rekhson of newly christened Dineamic Group (the guys that brought you self-serve beer at Bull & Bear and Public House), this Florence-raised, California-based chef is sharing his family recipes with Chicago.

On a research trip to Italy, the Dineamic crew was particularly taken with Siena, a Tuscan city about 45 miles outside of Florence—and more specifically, a small side-street eatery there called La Taverna. "There's a guy making pizza. There's a guy making martinis, pouring wine, making pasta on an old pasta grinder," Stoioff said. "It was literally a bar and a kitchen."

And so, everything at Siena Tavern, from the Edison bulbs hanging from the ceiling to the typewriter font on the menu to the layout of multiple bars interspersed with dining nooks, can be traced back to this particular place. I pulled up a barstool to see if Fabio and company's food had the potential to charm as much as his one-liners do.

Keep it light

It seems like every other word on the menu is prosciutto, pancetta, truffle or some kind of cheese, but a rich, food coma-inducing meal isn't the only way to go. Raw seafood plates from the crudo bar such as balsamic-drizzled hamachi with jalapeno slices and crispy shallots ($12) are flavor-packed but still light. And even though I usually couldn't care less about salads, combos such as hearts of palm with avocado and marcona almonds ($11) or farro with shrimp, calamari, roasted peppers and green beans ($14) sounded downright tempting.

The No. 11 cocktail

Or majorly pig out

It's definitely not for a first date, but the mess of an appetizer that is the coccoli ($12) is closely based off a La Taverna dish. Crispy puffs of fried dough arrive on a cutting board with strips of prosciutto, blobs of stracchino (a mild, smooth Italian cheese) and drizzles of truffle honey. You break apart the dough, spread on the cheese, tear off some prosciutto and assemble it into a little bite, covering yourself in honey in the process. In the pasta department, praise for Viviani's gnocchi on "Top Chef" definitely set the bar high for his version served here with a rich truffle cream sauce flecked with fried sage and pancetta ($16). The best gnocchi is feather-light and velvety soft, while the worst is gummy and chalky—and Fabio's unquestionably is the former. Thin-crust pizzas ($14-$17) have more in common with Bar Toma's substantial crust the authentic Neopolitan styles of Nella and Spacca Napoli.

Expect a bit of deja vu

Siena Tavern may have been inspired by a quaint little restaurant, but the oversized tufted booths, cleavage-baring bartenders and bar that's three deep by 6:30 p.m. on a Friday are shades of Bull & Bear and Public House, for sure. Whereas beer dominates those hang-outs, cocktails ($12) are much more of a focus here, thanks to Revae Schneider of Femme du Coupe. The No. 11 was like a memory mashup of vacationing in Mexico and Italy with tequila and grappa mingling in the same glass, while the No. 5 matched bourbon with chai, sparkling apple cider and Averna, an Italian liqueur. The staff is still working through the usual we-just-opened kinks—which means I witnessed a spilled cocktail here, a sloshed crudo plate there and the occasional pasta arriving before antipasti.

Pencil in a return visit

The menu is just too huge to try everything that sounds good in one sitting. Like Balena and RPM Italian, two other Italian restaurants that have opened within the past year or so, Siena serves a massive Florentine-style steak for two dressed with herbs, olive oil and lemon. Convincing another carnivore at the table to go halfsies on this $85 36-ounce porterhouse is easier said than done, though, especially when everyone's in the mood for pasta. My own Italian mother-in-law makes a damn good lasagna, but next time, I'll save room to try Viviani's mama's recipe ($16). Ditto for the bomboloni ($9), holeless Italian doughnuts made with mashed potatoes to give them a gooey consistency. And the house-made gelato. And 12-ounce kobe meatball. See what I mean?

Don't let the reservations situation scare you off

It's true, most of Siena Tavern's prime-time reservations are booked solid into April on **opentable.com**. But that doesn't mean it's as tough to get into as Chicago's most popular restaurant with "Top Chef" roots, Girl & The Goat. A decent chunk of tables in the dining room are saved for walk-ins and the entire main bar and surrounding tables are first come, first served.

Bottom line: Livelier than a traditional red-sauce joint and fancier than its sports bar siblings—though not as fancy as River North's other celeb-owned modern Italian hangout, RPM—Siena Tavern is on the way to hitting a sweet spot for downtown diners and drinkers.

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That's a wrap!

CRAIG SEYMOUR PHOTOS FOR REDEYE

Meg Silvas claims RedEye's Best Bartender 2013 title

You came. You drank. You voted. RedEye's Best Bartender Bash went down Wednesday at Benchmark in Old Town, pitting our four finalists—Kenneth Zawacki of Maria's Packaged Goods & Community Bar, Briar Brackney of Vincent, Sarah VonderHaar of Old Town Social and Meg Silvas of The Orbit Room and Kuma's Corner—against each other in a stiff cocktail shakedown. In the closest race in Best Bartender history, Meg Silvas and her signature drink, The Gem, earned her the title of Best Bartender. —KATE BERNOT

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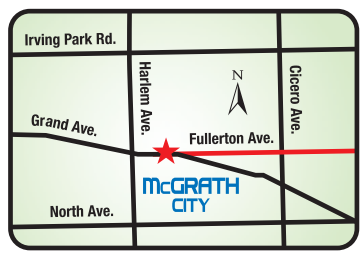

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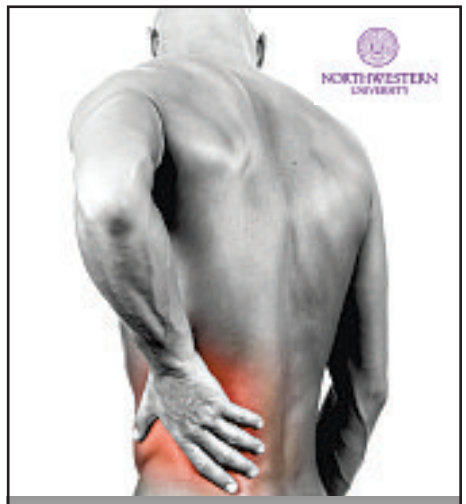

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Super Low Low Miles! Navigation, Moonroof, Heated Leather! (P1128) **$23,995 888-641-7122**

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MERCEDES 2007 ML350 4MATIC,
Gorgeous! Navigation! (M1891A)
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VW 2004 GOLF,
Good Miles! Auto, A/C, Power, & More! Great Find! (M1977A)
$6,995 888-641-7122

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BMW 2011 328i,
Only 10K Miles! Ultra Loaded! (M1953A)
$27,995 888-641-7122

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MINI 2010 COOPER,
26K Extra Low Miles! Loaded! (M1784A)
$16,995 888-641-7122

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MINI 2012 COOPER COUNTRYMAN,
Only 12K Miles! Heated Leather, CD, Power, & More! (M1877A) **$24,995 888-641-7122**

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MINI 2010 COOPER S,
29K Miles! Leather, Dual Moonroofs, CD, Power, Heated Seats, & More! Certified! (M1999A) **$20,995 888-641-7122**

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MINI 2010 COOPER S,
Only 13K Miles! Loaded! Certified! (M1883A)
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TOYOTA 2011 RAV4,
Gorgeous! All Power Options! Low Miles! (M1864A)
$18,995 888-641-7122

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HONDA 2004 ODYSSEY EX-L, Only 97K Miles! Heated Leather, 6-Disc CD, DVD Entertainment, Power, Loaded, Rear A/C! Immaculate! (412285A) **$8,895 866-503-8017**

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CHRYSLER 2006 TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING,
Low 49K Miles! Leather, 6-Disc Changer, Quads, Rear A/C, Great Deal! (513018A) **$10,729 866-503-8017**

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BMW 2010 335i Coupe,
Certified! Low Low Miles! Loaded! (W13199A)
$30,595 877-571-4269

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Only 20K Miles! Sportacular! (W12220A)
$23,995 877-571-4269

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TOYOTA 2004 CAMRY SOLARA SLE V6,
Only 42K Miles! Leather Loaded! (M10152B)
$12,995 877-571-4269

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VOLVO 2010 C70 T5 CONVERTIBLE,
Low Low Miles! Gorgeous! (OV1673A)
$26,595 877-571-4269

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CHEVY 2012 CRUZE,
18K Miles! Flawless! Loaded! (V13186A)
$16,988 866-314-4467

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GMC 2012 ACADIA DENALI,
Only 12K Miles! Dressed To The Nines! (13164A)
$38,588 866-314-4467

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CHRYSLER 2008 SEBRING LX,
Super Clean! All Power Options! (P4891)
$8,988 866-314-4467

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BUICK 2012 REGAL,
Only 8K Miles! Better Than New! (13164A1)
$23,988 866-314-4467

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BMW 2004 745Li,
Navigation, Heated Leather, Moonroof! She Has It All! (P1333)
$12,900 888-805-2011

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NISSAN 2001 FRONTIER 4WD,
Low Low Low Miles! Leather Loaded! (P1298A)
$7,900 888-805-2011

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NISSAN 2004 QUEST 3.5 SE,
Leather Loaded! We Finance Everyone! (P1372)
$9,800 888-805-2011

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CHRYSLER 2005 300C TOURING,
Leather Loaded! Moonroof, CD, Alloys, & So Much More!
(P1342) **$9,900 888-805-2011**

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PONTIAC 2000 FIREBIRD CONVERTIBLE 5.7L,
Auto, Leather, Power & Performance! Only 70K Miles!
(P1362) **$11,900 888-805-2011**

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CHEVY 2004 TAHOE LT 4X4,
Leather Loaded! 3rd Seat, Moonroof, & Power! (P1383)
$9,900 888-805-2011

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GMC 2000 JIMMY SLT 4X4,
All Power Options! Great Find! (P1366A)
$2,700 888-805-2011

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ISUZU 1999 RODEO S 4WD,
Only 65K Miles! All Power Options! (P1076A)
$3,900 888-805-2011

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MERCEDES 2005 S430,
Gorgeous! Low Miles! Auto, Heated Leather, Moonroof,
Power, & More! (P1235) **$12,900 888-805-2011**

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CADILLAC 2007 ESCALADE AWD,
Navigation, Back Up Camera, Rear Entertainment, Heated
Leather, She Has It All! (P1320) **$22,900 888-805-2011**

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TOYOTA 2004 CAMRY SOLARA SLE V6,
Only 42K Miles! Leather Loaded! (M10152B)
$12,995 877-571-4269

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AUDI 2007 Q7 QUATTRO PREMIUM AWD,
3rd Row, Panoramic Roof, Heated Leather, Alloys!
Luxury For The Family! (4720PA) **$23,995 888-401-3716**

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PORSCHE 2008 CAYENNE AWD
Navigation, Heated Leather, Moonroof, Dual Climate!
Luxury Loaded! (26866A) **$26,995 888-401-3716**

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LEXUS 2007 RX400h AWD, Low Miles! Navigation, Heated
Leather, Moonroof, Dual Climate! Family Luxury! (26707B)
$25,995 888-401-3716

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TOYOTA 2010 HIGHLANDER SE 4X4, Low Miles! Heated
Leather, Back Up Camera, 3rd Row, Rear Air, Alloys, Ready
For Family Fun! (85712) **$28,995 866-654-2841**

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CHEVY 2012 CAPTIVA 4DR,
Only 8K Miles! Full Power, CD, Bluetooth, Alloys! Perfect!
(12083A) **$20,950 877-231-5769**

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FORD 2007 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE
Wow! Only 21K Miles! Auto, Leather, Shaker CD Changer,
Alloys! (E3087A) **$15,988 877-709-8856**

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Automatic!
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$1,900 OFF MSRP^

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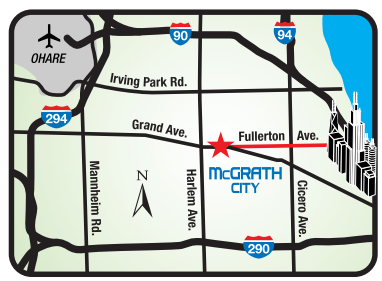

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5				3	8		4	
			5				6	
		8	9		6		3	2
6					9			
	4			5			2	
			2					6
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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

7	6	9	5	8	2	4	1	3
4	2	1	7	3	9	8	6	5
8	3	5	1	6	4	2	9	7
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2	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	1
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3	4	6	9	1	8	5	7	2
9	7	2	6	4	5	1	3	8
1	5	8	2	7	3	6	4	9

THURSDAY'S SOLUTIONS

B	A	S	S		L	E	A	D	S		S	P	I	T
U	S	E	R		I	N	L	E	T		P	E	S	O
L	E	N	S		T	E	E	N	Y	W	E	E	N	Y
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U	N	I	O	N		C	H	E	C	K		P	I	E
S	T	O	W		M	O	O	C	H		D	E	F	Y
T	I	N		L	O	A	T	H		F	O	R	T	E
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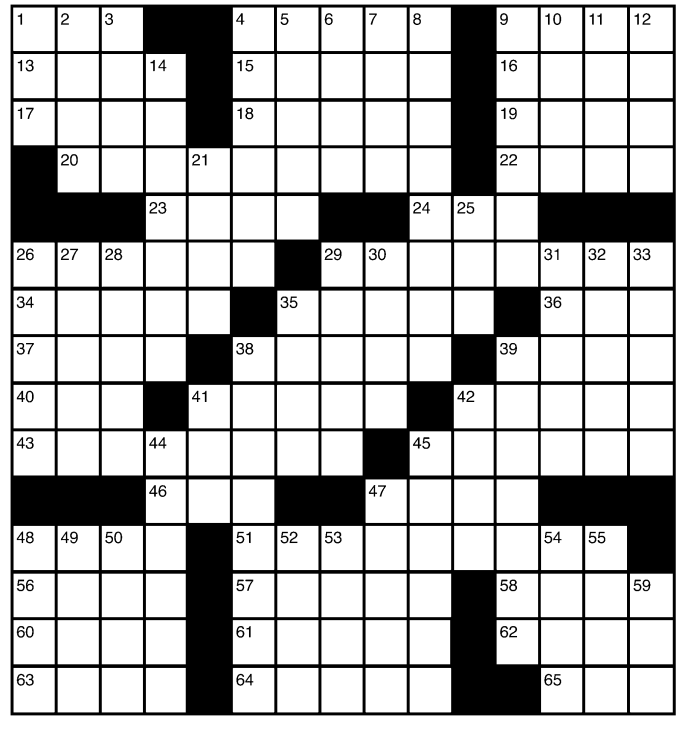
			A	G	E			T	E	E	T	H		
C	A	M	E	O			L	E	A	S		O	P	T
U	N	A	S	S	U	M	I	N	G		J	U	L	Y
B	E	T	A		S	A	M	O	A		A	S	A	P
E	W	E	R		A	C	O	R	N		G	E	N	E

ACROSS
1 Split _ soup
4 De Mille or Moorehead
9 Bradbury and Charles
13 Gung-ho
15 Want badly
16 "By the Time _ to Phoenix"
17 Carnival attraction
18 Lassos
19 Actress Ward
20 Last night's dinner reheated
22 In a lazy way
23 Misplace
24 Actor McKellen
26 School compositions
29 Stretch; extend
34 Mixed breeds
35 _ as a bat
36 Annoy
37 Nude
38 Speaks wildly
39 Ernie's pal
40 Christmas _; Dec. 24
41 Sink
42 Upper body
43 Totally changes a manuscript
45 Shelf above a fireplace
46 Japanese sash
47 Peru's capital
48 Tiny amount
51 Members of the visiting team
56 Counterfeit
57 Unsuspecting
58 Move quickly or suddenly
60 Athletic shoe brand
61 Change slightly
62 China's continent
63 _ the line; obeyed
64 Goes first
65 Crafty; wily

DOWN
1 _ for the course; usual
2 Wickedness
3 Assistant
4 _ the country; nationwide
5 Orchard
6 Back of the neck
7 Hardly _; infrequently
8 Regular meetings
9 Ascending
10 Matured
11 Holler
12 Remain
14 Let the air out of, as a balloon
21 Playthings
25 Conjunction
26 Glowing coal fragment
27 Charmingly smooth
28 Scatter about
29 _ Presley
30 Claim against property
31 Turn aside
32 Brief; pithy
33 Praise
35 Foundation
38 Making sense
39 Lorne Greene TV series
41 Overalls part
42 Easy to handle
44 Wandered
45 Ore seekers
47 Cherished
48 _ well; ails
49 Cincinnati, _
50 _ out; delete
52 Sickly looking
53 Pocket bread
54 Fling
55 Dirt
59 Spring month



TODAY IN THE YEAR ...

1864: Rebecca Lee became the first black woman to receive an American medical degree, from the New England Female Medical College in Boston.
1961: President John Kennedy established the Peace Corps.
2002: NASA said its Mars Odyssey spacecraft had found evidence that vast regions of Mars may abound in water.

cube BAR at RIVERS CASINO

MARCH ENTERTAINMENT

LIVE BANDS

WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
9PM – 12AM

WED
6TH DOT DOT DOT
13TH MODERN DAY ROMEOS
20TH AMERICAN ENGLISH
27TH THE MIX

THU
7TH HAIRBANGERS BALL
14TH TOO WHITE CREW
21ST 7TH HEAVEN
28TH HI INFIDELITY

COUNTRY TUESDAYS

9PM – 12AM

5TH SMOKIN GUNZ
12TH SUBURBAN COWBOYS*
* NO LINE DANCING
19TH HILLBILLY ROCKSTARZ
26TH JIN & TONIC

LINE DANCING/ 8PM-9PM

DJ JULIAN JUMPIN' PEREZ

THURSDAYS
12AM – 2AM

DJS BY JUMPIN' EVENTS

FRIDAYS, 9PM – 4AM
DJ ERGE &
JULIAN JUMPIN' PEREZ

SATURDAYS, 9PM–4AM
DJ Q & PUMP BOY LEE

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TOP 100 WORKPLACES 2012 Chicago Tribune

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whovill

BODY BY Joe

The secrets behind this were-man's buff stuff

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

Ever wonder how Joe Manganiello got the insanely buff bod he displayed so nicely while mending his own thongs in "Magic Mike"? Wonder no more, mortals. The "True Blood" star is set to release his own fitness book, "Joe Manganiello's Evolution: The Cutting-Edge Guide to Breaking Down Mental Walls and Building the Body You've Always Wanted," in January, thr.com reports. The book itself might even be longer than the title! Since, as Joe himself says, he "wasn't born this way" (duh), how did he go from pipsqueak to powerhouse? We broke him down part-by-part and made our best guesses. DANMORAN@TRIBUNE.COM | @REDEYEDANA

NECK

Remember that trick Gaston does in "Beauty and the Beast" where he wraps a leather belt around his neck, then flexes his muscles and it goes flying? Yeah. That.

PECS

Moonlighting as a children's party host and letting guests hit him with pinata bats. They just bounce right off him and hit an actual pinata—this guy isn't filled with candy, kiddos.

ABS

Balancing while using a shark as a surfboard in the middle of the Great Barrier Reef. You have to start out easy, with dolphins, but he graduated pretty quickly.

DIET

Breakfast: Five raw eggs, an entire orange grove, 2 slices wheat toast
Lunch: Leafy spinach salad, four cans of tuna
Snack: Half a Double Stuf Oreo. The double creme is essential.
Dinner: Two whole chickens, beans, carrots, a little quinoa

ARMS

Using adoring fans for biceps curls. They're not exactly difficult to find: it's kind of like the kissing booth at the high school carnival.

GLUTES

Poledancing classes, naturally, with a little inside research at the strip club. It takes an incredible amount of strength to slide down a pole upside-down with no hands and not crash on your skull.

LEGS

Running away from real werewolves during "True Blood" training. Oh, you didn't think they existed? Those aren't exactly "extras" they're using on the show, guys.

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redhot

"my apologies, I'm really bummed as well ... that poop cruise did us no favors."

–Mark McGrath, tweeting Wednesday that he's sorry for the cancellation of the Mark McGrath and Friends Cruise

TASTE TEST

It's like water but ... better? Diddy and Mark Wahlberg on Wednesday launched a product called AQUAhydrate, **mtv.com** reports. "I grew up a Kool-Aid kid," Diddy said. "I would drink sodas, juices everything ... and never drank water because I didn't like the way it tasted." Well, good to hear we have a solution to that problem.

Mark Wahlberg (left) and Diddy
GETTY IMAGES

'Shore' thing

Remember Angelina Pivarnick from "Jersey Shore"? She's ready to make a comeback ... with a pilot called "The Comeback." To make it happen, Angelina has launched a Kickstarter campaign. It costs $1 to get Angelina to tweet you and $2,500 for dinner together in New York.

What wedding?

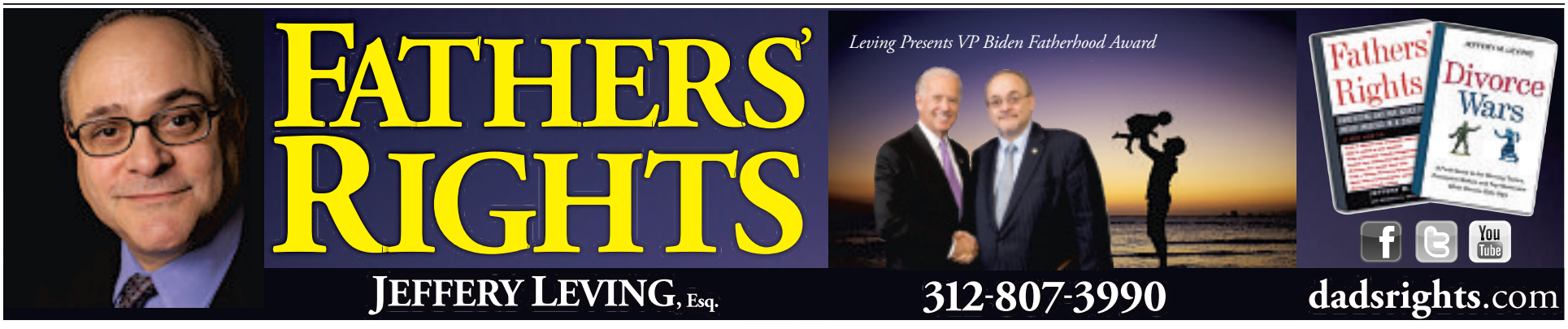
Neil Patrick Harris says a National Enquirer report that he has canceled his wedding to fiance David Burtka is not true. "The Nat. Enq. is cray cray. We've never had a wedding date, just engaged (Prop 8 and all)," Harris tweeted. "We're on a cruise as I write. He's rad. All good."

THE DIGIT

$125,000

That's the prize money for "Top Chef" winner **Kristen Kish**, who beat Brooke Williamson in a best-of-five-courses showdown Wednesday. Kish also receives a showcase at the Aspen Food and Wine festival and a feature in Food and Wine magazine.

Judges say ... no!

Looks like new judges **Nicki Minaj** and Keith Urban weren't the answer for "American Idol." Wednesday's show drew the fewest viewers in 11 years, according to preliminary numbers, with 13.1 million total viewers, **thr.com** reports. It was the smallest "Idol" audience since August 2002.

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